

CLAIMS

1. A welding method for arranging a flange part of an attaching member onto a mother member and welding the flange part to the mother member, in which

the welding corresponds to laser welding, and a laser beam is directed to the flange part along a welding path extending from a welding start point to a welding termination point to perform welding, the welding path being turned back before reaching the welding termination point, without overlap between the welding start point and the welding termination point, and the welding termination point being located at a place where no stress concentration occurs due to external forces on the mother member and the attaching member.

2. The laser welding method according to claim 1, wherein the welding path is substantially C-shaped, and after the welding path is turned back, a longer welding path than a crater produced in the welding termination point is provided to complete the welding termination point.

3. The laser welding method according to claim 1, wherein the welding path is spiral-shaped, having at least one

round which extends from an outer welding start point to an inner welding termination point, and after the welding path makes the one round, a longer welding path than a crater produced in the welding termination point may be further provided to complete the welding termination point.

4. The laser welding method according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the mother member is a pipe, and the flange part is formed into a circular arc, adapted to a shape of an outer periphery of the pipe.

5. The laser welding method according to one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the mother member and the attaching member may be for use in reinforcement of an instrument panel of a motor vehicle.

6. The laser welding method according to one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the laser welding corresponds to remote laser welding in which a long-focus laser beam is reflected in a mirror and guided along the welding path.